

The Division Of Fish Game And Wildlife's Skillful Angler Awards Program

By Walter S. Murawski, Supervising Biologist

The Skillful Anglers Program is designed to supplement the New Jersey State Record Fish listing by recognizing that many anglers catch both freshwater and marine fish, which may not be of record size, but nonetheless are of sufficient size and weight to have tested the anglers skill and thus be worthy of recognition.

Fisherman qualifying for a Skillful Anglers Award receive a signed certificate attesting to their achievement along with a bronze pin suitable to be worn on a fishing hat, jacket, etc. Only one pin and one certificate will be awarded per individual for each species which qualifies.

At the end of each year, special recognition is given to the anglers who caught the largest fish in each of the species categories. The winners of these categories are presented with a Special Award recognizing their accomplishments as the best of New Jersey's Skillful Anglers.

The procedure to obtain an award is easy. Fill out an application and have the fish weighed at a commercial establishment having a certified scale and have the proprietor sign the form testifying to the weight. All applications must be submitted within 30 days of catching the fish.

A brochure explaining the details of the program can be obtained from any Division Office, or by calling us at (908) 637-4125, or writing to us at DFG&W, 605 Pequest Rd., Oxford NJ 07863.

The minimum weight required to win a Skillful Angler Award for the various species are as follows:

Largemouth bass	6 pounds
Smallmouth bass	4 pounds
Striped bass hybrid	8 pounds
Carp	25 pounds
Channel catfish.....	9 pounds
Crappie	2 pounds
Muskellunge (incl. Tiger)	20 pounds
Chain pickerel.....	4 pounds
Northern pike	10 pounds
American shad	7 pounds
Brook trout	3 pounds
Brown trout.....	8 pounds
Lake trout	8 pounds
Rainbow trout.....	5 pounds
Walleye	5 pounds

Freshwater Awards received by anglers thus far in 1999 (end of October) are as follows :

<u>ANGLER</u>	<u>WATER</u>	<u>WEIGHT</u>
<u>LARGEMOUTH BASS</u>		
Jeffrey R. Grube, Easton PA	Swartswood Lk.	6 lb. 15oz
Buddy Mason, Bridgeton	Salem R.	6 lb. 7oz
George Talnagi, Cranbury	Assunpink Lk.	6 lb. 1oz
Bill Wurfel, Robbinsville	Rising Sun Lk.	6 lb. 3oz
<u>SMALLMOUTH BASS</u>		
Michael Wydra, Millville	Union Lk.	4 lb. 11oz

Henry Buergel, Phillipsburg	Merrill Cr.Res.	5 lb. 2oz
<u>STRIPED BASS HYBRID</u>		
Dominic Sarinelli, Hopatcong	Lk.Hopatcong	9 lb. 6oz
Ken Stelmack, Hackettstown	Lk.Hopatcong	9 lb. 8oz
Leonard Stelmack, Hackettstown	Lk.Hopatcong	8 lb. 2oz
<u>CARP</u>		
Richard Torgun, Gloucester Ct.	Delaware R.	38 lb. 0oz
Mike Wydra, Millville	Maurice R.	29 lb. 0oz
<u>CHANNEL CATFISH</u>		
Edwin Byk, Bloomfield	Lk.Hopatcong	14 lb. 0oz
Frank DePerte, Martinsville	Delaware R.	13 lb. 5oz
<u>CRAPPIE</u>		
Forest Black, Piscataway	Spruce Run Res.	2 lb. 5oz
Joseph P.Chiani, Landing	Lk.Hopatcong	2 lb. 0oz
Michael Wydra, Millville	Cedarville Lk.	2 lb. 9oz
William Phillips,Hamilton Sq.	Lk.Mercer	2 lb. 4oz
<u>MUSKELLUNGE</u>		
Brandon Swet, Stillwater	Greenwood Lk.	24 lb. 0oz
Walter Neumann, Cliffwood Bch.	Monksville Res.	31 lb. 8oz
<u>CHAIN PICKEREL</u>		
Michael Brandon, Andover	Lk.Hopatcong	4 lb. 1oz & 4 lb. 6oz
Kevin Dempsey, Chatham	Lk.Hopatcong	4 lb. 4oz
Robert Helms, Pittsgrove	Maurice R.	4 lb. 5oz
Lou Marcucci, Landing	Lk.Hopatcong	4 lb. 9oz
Daniel Mayfield, Wantage	Lk.Hopatcong	4 lb. 14oz & 4 lb. 4oz
William Mayfield, Wantage	Lk.Hopatcong	4 lb. 3oz
James Salerno, Hopatcong	Lk.Hopatcong	5 lb. 3oz
Kevin Scanlon, Hopatcong	Lk.Hopatcong	4 lb. 10oz
Stan Stelmack, Randolph	Lk.Hopatcong	4 lb. 4oz
Dennis Tarnowski, Stanhope	Lk.Hopatcong	5 lb. 0oz
Michael Wydra, Millville	Lk.Lenape	4 lb. 8oz
Bill Clark, Lk.Hopatcong	Lk.Hopatcong	4 lb. 2oz
<u>NORTHERN PIKE</u>		
Chris Summitt Jr.,Phillipsburg	Spruce Run Res.	14 lb. 12oz
<u>BROOK TROUT</u>		
Donald Walbillich,Phillipsburg	Musconetcong R.	3 lb. 10oz
Justin Bird, Phillipsburg	Musconetcong R.	4 lb. 5oz
Cliff Clifton, Millville	Shaws Mill Pd	3 lb. 14oz & 4 lb. 1oz
Douglas Woodruff, N.Brunswick	Pequest R.	4 lb. 3oz & 3 lb. 7oz
<u>BROWN TROUT</u>		
Joseph Krainatz, S.Bound Brook	Beaver Brook	10 lb. 1oz
<u>LAKE TROUT</u>		
Tom Cavagnaro, Bound Brook	Round Valley R.	12 lb. 13oz
Norman McNally, Manville	Round Valley R.	13 lb. 9oz
<u>RAINBOW TROUT</u>		
None		
<u>WALLEYE</u>		
Richard Byk, Hopatcong	Lk.Hopatcong	6 lb. 6oz
Robert Hartzell,Phillipsburg	Delaware R.	7 lb. 2oz

Alewife Herring



Lake Trout



Norman McNally, Manville
Round Valley R.
13 lb. 9oz

Brown Bullhead



Largemouth Bass



Jeffery R. Grube, Easton, PA
Swartswood Lk.
6lb. 5oz.

Brook Trout



Justin Bird, Phillipsburg
Musconetcong R.
4 lb. 5oz

Northern Pike



Chris Summitt Jr.,Phillipsburg
Spruce Run Res.
14 lb. 12oz

Rainbow Trout

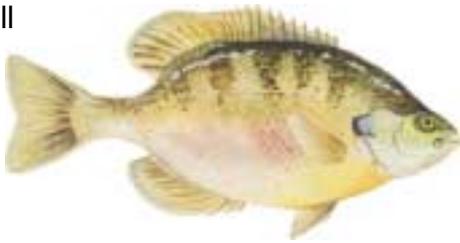


Chain Pickerel



Daniel Mayfield, Wantage
Lk.Hopatcong
4 lb. 14oz

Bluegill



Pumpkinseed Sunfish



Channel Catfish

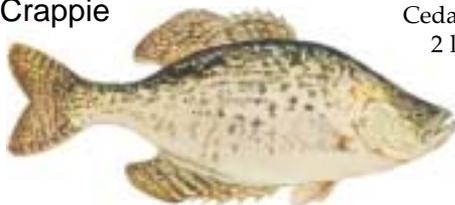


Edwin Byk, Bloomfield
Lk.Hopatcong
14 lb. 0oz

American Shad



Black Crappie



Michael Wydra, Millville
Cedarville Lk.
2 lb. 9oz

Smallmouth Bass



Henry Buergel, Phillipsburg
Merrill Cr.Res.
5 lb. 2oz

Brown Trout

Joseph Krainatz, S.Bound Brook • Beaver Brook • 10 lb. 1oz

Striped Bass Hybrid

Ken Stelmack, Hackettstown • Lk.Hopatcong • 9 lb. 8oz

Carp

Richard Torgun, Gloucester, Ct. • Delaware R. • 38 lb. 0oz

Muskellunge

Walter Neumann, Cliffwood Bch. • Monksville Res. • 31 lb. 8oz

Walleye

Robert Hartzell,Phillipsburg • Delaware R. • 7 lb. 2oz

Lake inventories available for sale

A new booklet entitled *Inventory of New Jersey Lakes and Ponds* (Vol. 1, No. 1) is available by mail from the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife. The 12 inventories in this booklet provide information on lakes recently monitored by the Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries. The work was done under a Federal Aid In Sportfish Restoration Project. These investigations include fish populations and physical characteristics of a representative sample of lakes open to public angling.

Included is information on the location of the water, the fish species present, recent stocking information, water depths, weed distribution and water quality including dissolved oxygen distribution. The following lakes are included:

Amwell Lake, Hunterdon County	Manasquan Reservoir, Monmouth County
Assunpink Lake, Monmouth County	Merrill Creek Reservoir, Warren County
Budd Lake, Morris County	Scarlet Oak Pond, Bergen County
Colliers Mill Pond, Ocean County	Tummill Pond, Ocean County
Furnace Lake, Warren County	Union Lake, Cumberland County
Green Turtle Pond, Passaic County	Wilson Lake, Gloucester County

The cost of a bound copy of these 12 Lake Inventories is \$3.00 including postage and handling. Please make checks payable to "NJ Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife." Send your request to: Lake Inventories, NJ Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife, Bureau

of Freshwater Fisheries, PO Box 394, Lebanon, NJ 08833.

List of fishing access sites

for disabled anglers available

To receive a listing of 50 places where disabled anglers might try their luck, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

Accessible Fishing Sites
NJ Division of Fish, Game & Wildlife
605 Pequest Rd., Oxford, NJ 07863

Also on-line at: www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw

Angler Ethics

1. Keep Only the Fish Needed
2. Do Not Pollute—Properly Dispose of Trash
3. Sharpen Angling and Boating Skills
4. Observe Angling and Boating Safety Regulations
5. Respect Other Anglers' Rights
6. Respect Property Owners' Rights
7. Pass on Knowledge and Angling Skills
8. Support Local Conservation Efforts
9. Never Stock Fish or Plants Into Public Waters
10. Promote the Sport of Angling

Enter the 2000 Fishing Essay Contest

Students in grades 1-8 are invited to enter the Division's Fishing Essay Contest with the theme of "My Funniest Fishing Story." For contest details, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: NJ Division of Fish, Game & Wildlife, 605 Pequest Rd., Oxford, NJ 07863. Entries must be postmarked by February 18, 2000.

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WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA REGULATIONS

Regulations for use of these areas are established by the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife with penalties of not less than \$50 nor more than \$200.

Information on these regulations and permit applications may be obtained by writing to the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife, PO Box 400, Trenton, NJ 08625-0400.

The division may revoke any permit or other authorization issued for violation or due cause.

THE FOLLOWING ARE PROHIBITED: CAMPING; SWIMMING; PICNICKING; DUMPING; CUTTING OR DAMAGING VEGETATION; ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND FIRES.

Restricted Hours

Wildlife Management Areas are closed from 9 p.m. until 5 a.m. unless engaged in lawful hunting, fishing or trapping activities.

Special permission may be granted for division approved activities.

Motor Vehicles

No person shall operate an unregistered vehicle on roads under the control of the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife. All motor vehicles are restricted to established public roads and parking areas.

Target Practice

Only bow and arrow, shotgun, muzzleloading shotgun, muzzleloading rifle and .22 caliber rimfire rifle shooting is allowed in designated hunter training ranges according to posted regulations at the training area. Other target practice is allowed only with permission from the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife.

Field Trials

Permits for use of Wildlife Management Areas for running of field trials may be granted by the division.

Dog Training and Exercising

Dogs may only be trained between Sept. 1 and Apr. 30. Some areas with designated dog training areas allow dog training all year. All dogs must be licensed according to state law.

Outboard Motors

Only electric motors are allowed on freshwater areas with the exception of Union Lake where outboard motors not exceeding 10 hp. may be used. On Prospertown Lake, only manually operated boats and canoes are allowed.

Horseback Riding

This is allowed only on designated WMAs with written permission from the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife. For horseback riding permit information, call 609-259-2132.

Rental of Division Facilities

Use of clubhouses or other facilities for outings, trap shoots, or other events will be authorized at a fee of \$100.00 per day; use for meeting purposes

will be permitted at a \$50.00 daily fee.

Fishing Tournament

Any club or organization that would like to use division Wildlife Management Areas for fishing tournaments must secure a permit from the division. An application must be submitted along with a \$15.00 fee to obtain a use permit for boat launches. Applications will be accepted in January at the division's Trenton office.

Boat Ramp Maintenance Permit

Any vehicle used to transport or launch a vessel or water conveyance on the following WMAs must have affixed to the lower corner of the driver's side rear window a Boat Ramp Maintenance Permit or applicant's copy from a valid hunting, fishing or trapping license. Boat Ramp Maintenance Permits may be purchased for a fee of \$15.00 from division offices at the Pequest Trout Hatchery Natural Resource Education Center, Northern, Central and Southern Region, Nacote Creek, Bivalve, Tuckahoe, Lebanon and Trenton offices. Boat Ramp Maintenance Permits may also be purchased through the mail from N.J. Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife, PO Box 400, Trenton, N.J. 08625, Att: Boat Ramp Permit.

1. Round Valley Angler Access
2. Kingwood
3. Assunpink
4. Dennis Creek
5. Tuckahoe
6. Mad Horse Creek
7. Union Lake
8. Menantico Ponds
9. Prospertown Lake

Maps and information on hunting land is also available from the following sources: USGS Topographic Maps – Maps for all land in New Jersey, \$5.00 per sheet. NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection, Maps and Publications, Bureau of Revenue, PO Box 417, Trenton NJ 08625-0417, 609-777-1038

State Parks and Forests Maps – Maps and information on lands administered by the Division of Parks and Forestry. Please specify park or forest when writing. Free of charge. NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection, Division of Parks and Forestry, PO Box 404, Trenton NJ 08625-0404, 800-843-6420

WMA Maps – Maps and information on lands administered by the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife, Photocopied WMA maps on USGS base available free of charge. NJ Div. Fish, Game & Wildlife, P.O. Box 400, Trenton NJ 08625, 609-984-1401

A statewide open space map is available for \$3 from the Information and Education Unit of NJ Div. Fish, Game & Wildlife. Send check for \$3.00 to: Open Space Map, NJ Div. Fish, Game & Wildlife, P.O. Box 400, Trenton NJ 08625



Outdoor Skills Workshop for Women

These workshops are for you if you have never tried these activities and hope for an opportunity to learn, you are a beginner who hopes to improve your skills, you have some outdoor experience and would like to expand your abilities, and you are excited to meet other outdoor enthusiasts. While Becoming an Outdoors-Woman workshops are designed primarily for women, anyone over 18 years of age is welcome to participate.

For more information and to be placed on our mailing list, please fill out this coupon and mail to:

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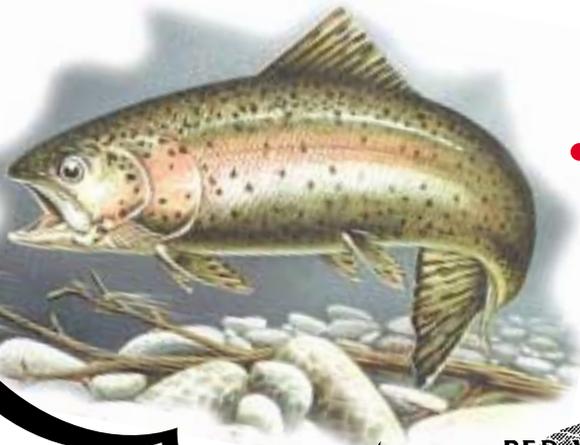
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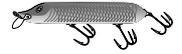
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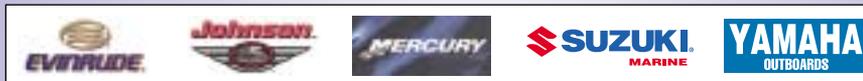


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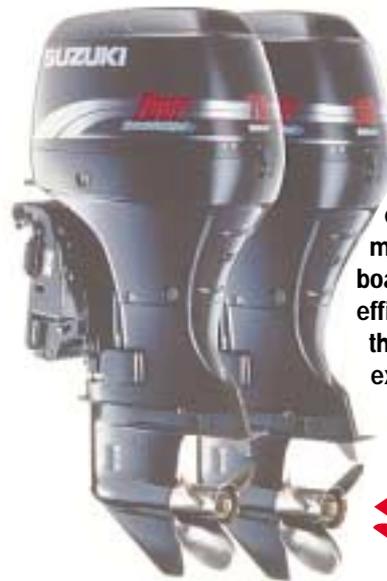
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